Notes on Two Beetles Reared from Dead Wistaria Sticks (Col.).

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While trimming off the dead branches of a Wistaria vine (*Wistaria chinensis* DC.) at my home on May 28, 1914, I observed that some of these dead twigs showed evidences of the work of wood-borers. A few of the twigs were cut off and placed in a loose-topped glass jar in the Entomological Laboratory of the State University of Iowa and on the following day, May 29, two adult *Chrysobothris azurea* Lec., male and female, emerged. This species has not before been recorded from Iowa.

On May 29, while again trimming the same vine, I found a specimen of *Lepturges querci* Fitch crawling on one of the branches. This time a number of short pieces of the dead vine, amounting in all to about 18 feet, were removed to a glass jar in the laboratory and devolopments awaited. The diameter of the sticks varied from ¼ inch to about 1 inch, those nearer the base of the vine and hence of the larger diameter being most heavily infested. The smaller branches of the vine above 5 feet from the ground were apparently not infested although many were dead, due, very probably, to the work of the larvae in the larger stems lower down. The glass jar containing the sticks was kept on a shelf where sunlight could not strike it and where it was not directly exposed to daylight. A temperature of between 70° and 80° Fahr. was maintained in the room.

The two species of beetles emerging from the wood, together with the dates of emergence and number of each species, are indicated in the following table:

	Chrysobothris azurea Lec.	*Lepturges querci* Fitch.
29 May	2 (1 male & 1 female)	..
30 "	2 (both males)	6
1 June	3 (2 males & 1 female)	19
2 "	1 (female)	4
3 "	1 (female)	3
4 "	..	5
5 "	..	4
10 "	..	1
	Total— 9	Total—42

These Iowa specimens of *Chrysobothris* average a little larger and the elytral foveae are more distinctly bronzed or metallic than those from New York and Massachusetts in Professor H. F. Wickham's collection.

There are, perhaps, two things of particular interest in regard to this experiment: first, the great number of *Lepturges querci* secured from a comparatively small number of twigs indicates a very high degree of infestation; second, in the rather limited number of *Chrysobothris azurea* obtained the males averaged a little earlier in emergence than the females. This is, however, not an unusual occurrence among other species of Coleoptera. I believe also that *Wistaria chinensis* has not been recorded as a host plant for either of these species of beetles.

I am indebted to Professor H. F. Wickham for the determination of the *Chrysobothris* and to Professor R. B. Wylie for the determination of the *Wistaria*.

Fragments on North American Insects—VIII.

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Difference in Habit as a Basis for Specific Differentiation.

I have noticed a tendency lately with entomologists and others to make a difference in habit coequal with a difference in structure and coloration as regards species. My attention was drawn again to this matter by casually noticing that Pierce, Cushman, Hood and Hunter (Bull. No. 100, Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., p. 53, footnote, 1912) separate a braconid into two species—*Microbracon dorsata* and *mellitor* of Say—on the basis of a difference in social habit. They admit the two are alike structurally; in habit they differ in that *mellitor* is parasitic upon coleopterous larvae and *solitary*, while *dorsata* is parasitic upon lepidopterous larvae and *gregarious*. To my mind the separation has no reason for being. From a practical standpoint, suppose that an exploring party captured a number of Braconidae and turned them over to some Hymenopterologist